

NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

METACOMET LAKE (Belchertown)

General Information:

Metacomet is a 74-acre lake located approximately one mile west of Route 9 in Belchertown. Depth averages 10 feet with a maximum depth of 18 feet. The water is dark in color and has a transparency of nine feet. The bottom is predominantly mud with a few areas of sand. Aquatic weeds are moderate too heavy along most of the shoreline. Trout water is marginal.

The shoreline is 80% developed with year round homes and summer cottages. A gravel boat ramp is located on the south end of the lake. Shoreline fishing is limited to the boat launch area only. Recreational use of this lake is high in the summer. Limited parking is available.

This lake can be located on the U.S.G.S. topographical quad map titled "Belchertown." Nearby fishing areas include the Swift River, Peppermill Pond, and of course the Quabbin Reservoir.

Fish Populations:

The fish population was most recently studied during a 1978 summer sampling operation. Eleven species were collected including the following: largemouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch, white perch, pumpkinseed, bluegill, golden shiners, channel catfish, yellow bullhead, brown bullhead and white sucker.

Fishing:

Lake Metacomet is stocked each spring and fall with rainbow trout. Brown trout are stocked when they are available. Considerable fishing pressure is exerted for the trout from April through June.

Presently, the warm water gamefish appear to be over harvested. A large panfish population is present, especially the yellow perch, which can provide good fishing and excellent eating. Ice fishing is popular on this lake, primarily for trout and chain pickerel.

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